

Advisory Social Services Board (ASSB)
Wednesday, November 16, 2022, 7:00pm-8:30pm
Zoom Virtual Platform due to COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency

MEETING NOTES

Attendees:

At-Large - Chairman's Office	David T.S. Jonas, Chair
Braddock District	Karen Darley
City of Falls Church	Mary Wilcox
City of Fairfax	Andre Lee
Dranesville District	Ben Zuhl
Lee District	Hasan Shah, Secretary
Mount Vernon District	Raymond McGrath
Providence District	Laura Martinez
Springfield District	Amrita Banerjee
Sully District	Alice Foltz, Vice Chair

Members Absent:

Hunter Mill District	Joe Koszarek
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Staff Present:

- Michael Becketts, DFS Director
- Melanie Fenwick, DFS Senior Policy Manager
- Kristina Jordan, DFS Documentarian
- Marijke Hannam, DFS Deputy Director
- Sandi Slappey Brown, CYF Assistant Director for Operations
- Lisa Tatum, PAES Division Director
- Daniel Mekibib, PAES Assistant Director for Employment Services

This meeting was held via Zoom Virtual Platform due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The public was able to access this meeting by dialing 888-270-9936 and then entering the conference code 371526.

Meeting Opening:

- David Jonas called the meeting to order at 7:03pm
- David Jonas read the electronic meeting script as authorized by FOIA and performed roll call establishing that each member can hear each other.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from October 19, 2022 were approved by ASSB Chair and Board with the correction that Laura Martinez was not present at the October 19 meeting.

7:05 p.m.

Director's Announcements

Michael A. Becketts, DFS Director

- Dr. Becketts reminded the group about the pending end of the public health emergency, which will impact Medicare services.
- The group also reflected on the rising cases of RSV, in addition to the ongoing impact of the COVID pandemic and increasing inflation. DFS team continues to meet the needs of county residents, but the preceding mentioned factors will impact DFS service delivery.

7:15 p.m.

Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) Program Updates

Sandi Slappey Brown, Asst Division Director for Operations in Child Welfare, in place of Oriane Erickson, Division Director, Children Youth and Families

- Reviewed the services provided for adult and aging population in the county,
- There has been needs for increased resources and services – while the quality-of-service satisfaction has remained high.
- Additional resources are needed to ensure efficient and effective services can continue to be provide to county citizens that require it.
- Board will consider including in the Annual Report letter the increasing need to recruit and retain human services talent.

7:30 p.m.

Public Assistance and Employment Services (PAES) Program Updates

Lisa Tatum, Division Director, Public Assistance and Employment Services
Daniel Mekibib, Assistant Director, Workforce Development

- Review of the service provided by Domestic and Sexual Violence Services
- DSVS are intentional in supporting and partnering with other agencies to facilitate access to their services.
- Ms. Foltz provided a testimonial on the services DSVS provides and the impact it had on her friend.
- DSVS is also developing creative approaches to tapping into additional workforce talent.

8:25 p.m.

Annual Report Update

- Melanie Fenwick provided a status update on the Annual Report. All of the information has been received by the program areas, included success stories. Amy Carlini, Communications Director is working on the editing.
- The Board agreed that it is okay to keep the report the same length as last year since it's not being printed.

ADJOURN

8:30 p.m.

Next ASSB meeting:

- Wednesday, December 21, 2022, from 7:00pm-8:30p